

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1A, 1B, and 2. These sheets replace the original sheets including Figures 1A, 1B, and 2. Specifically, and in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, Applicants are amending Figures 1A, 1B, and 2 to include a "Prior Art" legend.

Attachment: Replacement drawing sheets for Figures 1A, 1B, and 2

Annotated drawing sheets showing changes to Figures 1A, 1B, and 2

REMARKS:

Applicants are amending claims 1 and 5, and are amending Figures 1A, 1B, and 2 to include a "Prior Art" legend. Thus, claims 1-6 currently are pending and subject to examination in the above-captioned patent application. No new matter is added by the foregoing amendments, and these amendments are fully supported by the specification. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the above-captioned patent application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

In the Office Action mailed July 5, 2005, the Examiner objected to the drawings. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that Figures 1A, 1B, and 2 fail to include a "Prior Art" legend. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, Applicants have amended Figures 1A, 1B, and 2 to include a "Prior Art" legend. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the drawings.

In the Office Action mailed July 5, 2005, the Examiner also rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶1, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Moreover, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as allegedly being anticipated by Applicants' Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA"). To the extent that these rejections remain applicable in view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, as follows.

1. 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶1 Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6 as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner asserts that claims 1 and 5 include subject matter that was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the limitation of “a data supply circuit,” as set forth in independent claim 1, is not found in the specification or the drawings, as filed. The Examiner also asserts that the limitation of “a precharge circuit precharging the first data line, the second data line, and the test-dedicated line,” as set forth in claim 5, is not found in the specification or the drawings, as filed. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, as follows.

Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to replace the phrase: “a data supply circuit” with the phrase: “an internal circuit.” Applicants respectfully submit that the specification and drawings, as filed, satisfy the written description requirement with respect to the phrase: “an internal circuit.” See, e.g., Appl’n, Page 3, Line 6.

Applicants also have amended claim 5 to remove the phrase: “and the test-dedicated line.” Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 5 is consistent with the specification and the drawings, as filed. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the written description rejection of claims 1-6.

2. **35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejection**

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3 as allegedly being anticipated by AAPA. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, as follows.

Applicants' independent claim 1, as amended, describes a semiconductor device, comprising "a drive circuit configured to set, in the first operation mode, the first data line to a signal level responsive to said single value represented by the two complementary signals, **and configured to set, in the second operation mode, the first data line to a signal level responsive to one of the two signals and the second data line to a signal level responsive to another one of the two signals after precharging the first and second data lines.**"

The Examiner asserts that AAPA discloses or suggests each and every element of Applicants' independent claim 1. In particular, the Examiner states "according to [Figure 2 of AAPA], regardless of the operation mode, data bus lines DB0-DB3 still [are responsive] to signal RDt from the sense amplifier 24." Office Action, Page 5, Lines 2 and 3. Applicants understand that the Examiner is equating this alleged feature of AAPA with the claim limitation that "in the second operation mode, the first data line [is set] to a signal level responsive to one of the two signals," as set forth in Applicants' independent claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's characterization of AAPA.

For example, in Figure 2 of AAPA, the TST signal becomes HIGH in the test mode, which results in the output of the NAND gate 26 being fixed to HIGH, and the output of the NOR gate 30 being fixed to LOW. Therefore, **in the test mode, the data bus lines DB0-DB3 are not responsive to either the signal**


RDt or the signal RDc. Consequently, AAPA fails to disclose or suggest at least the feature that “in the second operation mode, the first data line [is set] to a signal level responsive to one of the two signals,” as set forth in Applicants’ independent claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the anticipation rejection of independent claim 1 at least for this reason.

Claims 2 and 3 depend from allowable, independent claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner also withdraw the anticipation rejection of claims 2 and 3 at least for this reason.

CONCLUSION:

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-captioned patent application is in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that an in-person or telephonic interview with Applicants' representatives would expedite the prosecution of the above-captioned patent application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney of records. Applicants are enclosing a check in the amount of \$120.00 covering the requisite large entity fee for a one-month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action in the above-captioned patent application. Nevertheless, in the event of any variance between the fees determined by Applicants and those determined by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, please charge or credit any such variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket No. 100353-00086.

Respectfully submitted,



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CMM/TJC:ksm

FIG. 2
Prior Art

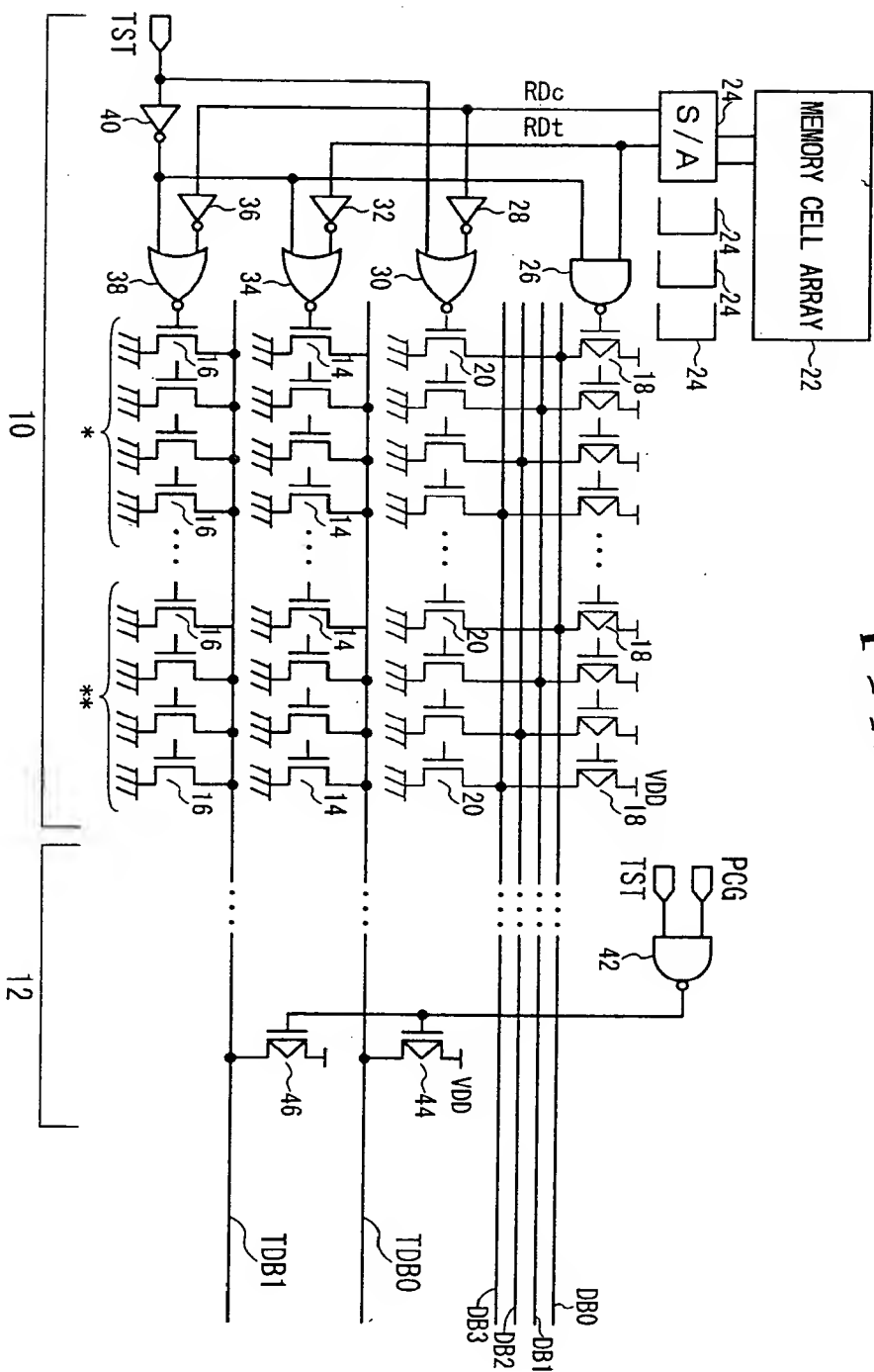
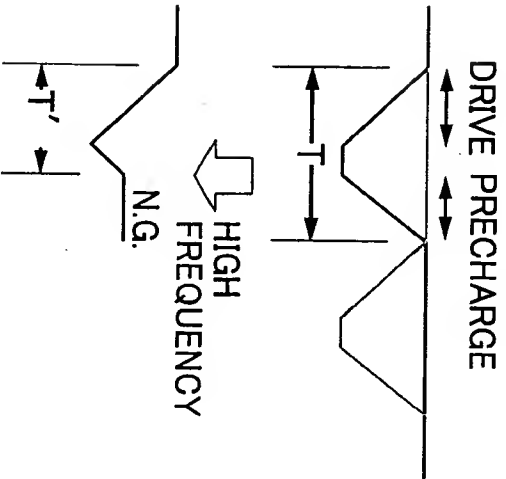




FIG.1A
Prior Art

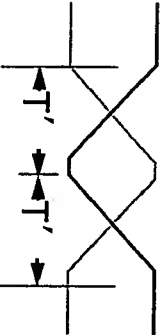


DYNAMIC OPERATION

THERE IS A NEED FOR TWO
STEPS OF DRIVING AND
PRECHARGING DURING CYCLE T
→ NOT SUITABLE
FOR HIGH FREQUENCY

FIG.1B

Prior Art



STATIC OPERATION

ONLY DRIVING IS NEEDED
DURING CYCLE T
→ SUITABLE FOR
HIGH FREQUENCY